

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel McElhany W12455 Elizabeth McElhany f39SC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves rev'd 3/19/09 & 5/30/15 & 4/21/24

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 12]

State of South Carolina, Chester District

On this 24th day of October personally appeared in open court before William D. Martin Judge of the court of Genl Sessions & Common Pleas now sitting Samuel McElhaney a resident of Chester District in the state aforesaid aged about 64 years who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

I was drafted into service about the close of year 1777 according to my best knowledge in Captain Philip Walker's company & Col. John Winn's Regiment in Chester District South Carolina, and marched from thence to Charleston. Thence to Purysburg near the mouth of the Savannah River where at the end of three months from the time of my draft I was discharged & returned Home—whence not long afterwards I was again called by a second Draft & marched under Captain Philip Walker & Col. Edward Lacy [sic, Edward Lacey] to the Black Swamp where I was placed under Col. Simmons. Thence to Dorchester on our way we had a skirmish with the enemy. At Dorchester I was discharge & again Returned Home, the enemy having taken to their ships & made their escape. I next volunteered under Capt. John Mills & Col. Lacey & Genl. Thos. Sumter [Thomas Sumter] & marched to Headquarters at Clem's Branch in the vicinity of Charlotte North Carolina. Thence to Kings Mountain & fought in the famous Battle [October 7, 1780] which took place there with the British under Genl. Ferguson [sic, Patrick Ferguson] under the command of Col. Williams [James Williams]. Thence to Col Walker's up the Broad River guarding & nursing those who were wounded in the fight & thence we returned home—After which I was frequently out on various Scouting & Patrol Parties—I have no Documentary Evidence of my Services—know of but one man now living who can testify as to my services—Steven McElhaney.

To the interrogatories propounded to me by the court I answer—

1st. I was Born in Lunenburg [County] State of Virginia

2nd I have no record of my age. It was burned up in my father's Bible.

3rd I was twice Drafted & volunteered once.

4th I was living in Chester Dist. S. Carolina when called out & now live in York the adjoining District.

5th I Remember Genl. Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] and his command at the Black Swamp.

6. I never received a written Discharge.

7. I Refer to Steven McElhaney to Testify as to my Revolutionary services & to the Rev'd Robt. Walker & William Stringfellow who can testify as to my credibility & good character & also touching their belief to my services as a Revolutionary Soldier.

I do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State only that of South Carolina.

Sworn to in open Court October 24, 1832.

By S/ Samuel McElhaney, [sic] X his mark

S/ J. Rosborough, C. C.

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South Carolina Chester District: I hereby certify that I was in the Service with Samuel McElhaney he who has subscribed & sworn to this Declaration, a considerable portion of the time, & that his declaration is correct, so much of it as relates to his services during the time I was with him.

Sworn to in open Court October 24th 1832

S/ Stephen McElhaney¹

[Robert B. Walker, a clergyman, and William Stringfellow gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of South Carolina Chester District: Personally appeared before me Peter Wylie Judge of the court of ordinary of said District in open court Samuel McElhenney who being duly sworn saith upon oath that by reason of old age & consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below viz. the first tour in 1777 when in Capt. Walker's Company, Col. Winn's Regiment served not less than 3 months. Second Tour in he thinks in the year 1779 Drafted again when he marched under Capt. Philip Walker's Company Col. Edward Lacey's Regiment to Black Swamp where placed under Col. Simmons served not less than 3 months. Third Tour volunteered under Capt. John Mills Col. Lacey's Regiment under General Sumter marched to the headquarters Clems Branch and at the time when he was at them Battle of Kings Mountain served not less than 9 months this last tour was in the year 1780 & 1781. This service was exclusive of a great deal of scouting & for which service he claims a pension this deponent further saith that the person who wrote his declaration must have made a mistake in saying he was put 64 years of age as he was 16 years of age when he Entered service in the latter part of 1777 & is of opinion he told the writer who wrote his declaration so which would have made him above 70 years of age.

He Sworn to & signed the 3rd day of September 1834 in open Court

S/ Samuel McElhenney, X his mark

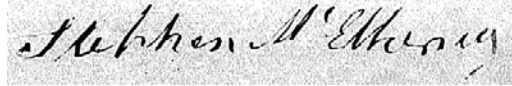
South Carolina Chester District: Stephen McElhenney [sic] Soldier of the revolution came into open court & made oath & saith he is well acquainted with Samuel McElhenney above

¹ [Stephen McElhenney S21368](#)

named & says that he this deponent was in the service with the declarant in his two last tours and has reason to believe the other facts stated in said Amendment is correct both with respect to his service and age as he this deponent is a brother of the declarant.

Sworn to & signed in open Court this 3rd September 1834 in open Court before me
S/ Peter Wylie, JCOCD

S/ Stephen McElhaney



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Comptroller General's Office

Columbia South Carolina December 2nd, 1834

On examining the records of this office I find the following evidence in proof of Samuel McElhenney's claim to a Pension for Revolutionary Services –

Viz.:

Issued the 16th of October 1784 to Mr. Samuel McElhenney for Eighteen Pounds, Eleven shillings and five pence Sterling for 187 days militia duty as per account Audited –
Principal £19.11.5 No. 12 –
Annual Interest £1.7.4

I hereby Certify that the foregoing Certificate of and Indent to Mr. Samuel McElhenney is a true and correct Transcript from Indent Book L page 286 in this Office.
Office of Comptroller General

Columbia South Carolina December 2nd, 1834

S/ W. Laval
Compr. Genl.

[p 10: On November 9, 1846 in York District South Carolina, Elizabeth McElhaney, 74, filed for a widows pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Samuel McElhaney, a revolutionary pensioner at the rate of \$35 per annum; that she married him April 18, 1792; and that he died July 26 1846. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 4 family register]

Rachel McElhaney was born the 28th day of March 1793

James McElhaney was born the first day of March 1795

Elizabeth McElhaney was born the first day of July 1797

Elizabeth Hood was born Made this 6th 1797

Eli McElhaney was born May the 5, 1805

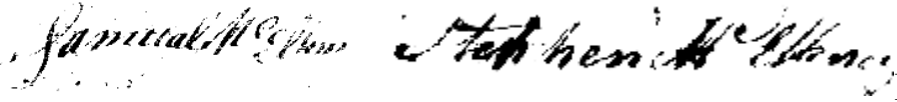
[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$35 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as and a half months in the South Carolina militia.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts² relating to Samuel McElhenny -McElhaney pp 15

² The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name. The number behind the 'pp' indicates the number of pages in the file and the 'Audited Account No.' is the actual Account Number assigned by the South Carolina Archives.

[p 2: Printed form of Indent No. 286 Book L dated October 16th, 1784 issued to Mr. Samuel McElhenney [sic] for £19.11.54 137 days militia duty as per account audited.]

[p 3: Reverse of the above Indent bearing what appears to be endorsements by Samuel McElheny [sic] and Stephen McElheney whose signatures thereon appears as follows:



[p 5]

The Committee on pensions to whom was referred the Report of the Senate on the petition³ of Samuel McElhenay , Respectfully Report that they have considered the same and recommend to this house that the Report of the Senate be concurred in

December 1826

John McComb, Chairman

[pp 6-7: Images of Vouchers indicating payment of \$60 per annum commencing June 4, 1828 and ending May 31, 1834 to Samuel McElheny [sic] by the state of South Carolina.]

[p 9]

To the Hon. the President & members of the Senate

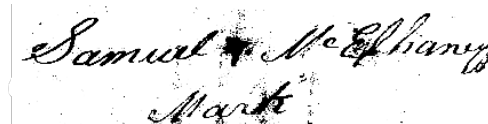
Your petitioner Saml McElhaney respectfully Sheweth that he was once a pensioner of this State, That afterwards he drew a pension from the Genl. government & now does – Your petitioner States that by an act of the Legislature he was struck off the State & Transferred to the genl govt. – Your petitioner states that he draws from the genl. govt. Thirty Three Dollars – he states that all his proof & certificates as to his being a Revolutionary soldier are filed in the Treasurers office – Your petitioner prays that he may be Entered as a State pensioner or that he may be allowed the difference between his State pension & the pension he draws from genl. govt. with the arrearages – Your petitioner states that he is extremely destitute
[undeciphered word or words]

1 Decr. 1843

A. Williamson

Samuel McElhaney

Mark



[p 11]

The Committee on the Military and Pensions to which was referred the petition of Samuel McElhaney praying to be placed on the Pension Roll begs leave to report that the Committee

³ unfortunately, this file does not now contain the petition by the veteran to be placed on the South Carolina pension list

has had the same under consideration and recommend that the petitioner be placed on the pension Roll of this State at the rate of twenty seven dollars per year to commence forthwith.

Respectfully submitted

John Buchanan, Chairman

[p 13]

The Committee on Pensions to whom was referred the Report of the Committee on the Military and Pensions of the Senate on the petition of Samuel McElhaney praying to be placed on the pension Roll Beg leave to Report, that they have had the same under consideration and having reported unfavorable on a similar petition in this house cannot consistently concur in the Report of the Senate & Recommend that the petition be read for the consideration of this House also the Report of the Committee of the Senate & that the Relief [undeciphered word or words] concurred in

JP Crockett, Chair

[p 15]

The Committee on Pensions to whom was referred the petition of Samuel McElhaney praying to be placed on the pension list Beg leave to Report that they have had the same under Consideration and Recommend that the prayer thereof be not granted

JP Crockett, Chairman